

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

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APPROVED BY EA/K:RGRICH
EUR/CAN:CJCLEMENT
DOD/ISA:LT.COL MCCLURE
-----022113 011939Z /53

R 011745Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
INFO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
CINCUNC SEOUL
JCS
SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 286784

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: UN, US, KS, CA

SUBJECT: CANADIAN LIAISON MISSION TO UN COMMAND

REF: A) CINCUNC 160925Z NOV 77; B) SEOUL 9918

1. THE DEPARTMENT SHARES THE CONCERN EXPRESSED IN THE
REFERENCE TELEGRAMS OVER THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT'S DECISION
TO TERMINATE ITS SEOUL LIAISON MISSION TO THE UN COMMAND.
THE TIMING OF THE DECISION IS PARTICULARLY UNFORTUNATE IN
THE LIGHT OF THE US DECISION TO WITHDRAW ITS GROUND
COMBAT FORCES FROM KOREA. THE GOC'S DECISION, LIKE OURS,
IS SUSCEPTIBLE TO BEING MISREAD AS A SIGN OF LESSENER
COMMITMENT TO THE SECURITY ROLE OF THE UN COMMAND IN
KOREA.

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2. IN A LETTER TO ADMIRAL ROBERT FALLS DATED 25 NOVEMBER,
GENERAL GEORGE BROWN, CHAIRMAN JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF,
EXPRESSED HIS CONCERN AS WELL, CITING IN ADDITION TO THE
POINTS MADE IN THE REFERENCE MESSAGES THE POSSIBILITY
THAT THE CANADIAN MOVE COULD SET AN UNDESIRABLE PRECEDENT
FOR OTHER UNC PARTICIPANTS. HE SOLICITED ADMIRAL FALLS'

SUPPORT FOR A REVERSAL, OR AT LEAST A POSTPONEMENT, OF THE
GOC'S DECISION.

3. WE BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR EMBASSY OTTAWA TO
LEND ITS SUPPORT TO THE REPORTED EFFORTS BY CINCUNC AND
GENERAL BROWN TO SECURE SOME MODIFICATION IN THE GOC'S
DECISION. SPECIFICALLY, THE EMBASSY SHOULD URGE THE
GOC TO CONSIDER ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS WHICH WOULD RETAIN
A CANADIAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN SEOUL, SUCH AS DUAL
HATTING OF A RESIDENT DEFENSE ATTACHE INTO THE UNC
LIAISON ROLE. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 01-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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